



FIRELINE

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2007

Next generation 911

The following is a report prepared for the Washington State E911 Advisory Committee which was forwarded to the WFCA by Steve Lich, WFCA Representative on the E911 Advisory Committee

The Current 911 System

The current 911 systems in the United States were built in the 1970s and based on circuit-switched technology; they were designed to handle one type of communications device: landline telephone service. Consumers and businesses are increasingly using and depending on new communications technologies and devices.

These trends are forcing 911 Authorities and PSAPs to change the way they operate to provide equivalent services to consumers. These changes are going to be much more fundamental in nature than the shift from landline to wireless E911 service.

The change from landline to wireless was mitigated by service providers that translated cellular 911 calls to mimic landline 911 calls so they could be received and processed by PSAPs. In order to support these trends, 911 Authorities and PSAPs must migrate to a platform that enables these communications devices to access 911 service.

"The current 911 system will continue to lag further behind technology, and will continue to degrade and be unable to meet the demands of its residents and requests for emergency assistance."

What's Driving the Change in 911?

What's driving the change in 911? Migration to Voice over Internet-Protocol (VoIP) devices, Instant Messenger (IM), text messaging, Short Message Service (SMS), and email, to name a few. Others include new sources of caller location (such as latitude/longitude from mobile devices), zip+4 information from VoIP providers, closed circuit television used by cities and counties along roads, highways, and high crime areas and closed circuit television used by private businesses.

The Future of E911

Much work has been done in many forums to design a network
See Generation on Page Four



NAEFO convention

The Fourth Annual Convention of the National Association of Elected Fire Officials will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, September 18-19, 2007. The convention will take place at The Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas.

Formed in 2001, NAEFO is a non-profit organization made up of state associations of elected fire officials. Its primary purpose is to represent and inform elected officials of national issues and provide assistance to state associations.

Convention information will be mailed in the coming weeks. If you are interested in learning more about NAEFO, please visit www.naefo.org.

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A Message from the President *by Joe Dawson*



Kudos to Executive Secretary Roger Ferris, Lobbyists Ryan Spiller and S and i Swarthout, and the members of the

WFCA Legislative Committee for their tireless efforts in securing the passage of ESSB 5498, the multi-year lid lift authority.

That piece of legislation, which was our number one priority this past session, will no doubt turn out to be one of the most beneficial outcomes of our legislative activity over the past several years. Not only will it allow us to plan more realistically, it will also save us election costs over the years.

By the time this issue of *Fireline* has gone to press, you will have received sample ballot language that will assist you in placing the issue before your electorate.

One last thought regarding this legislation: as we all did a good job of contacting our legislators requesting their support of the issue, we all need to take the time to send them a

note of appreciation for their support. A thank you is probably more lasting than the original request.

The recent Saturday Seminars in Spokane and Ocean Shores regarding budgeting procedures were well attended and received very positive evaluations from those attending.

***...members of Region 2
are excited to have the
opportunity to host this
year's conference.***

I attended the Spokane session and was proud of our association for presenting such valuable information to our membership. Hats off to Les Riel and his Education Committee for their perception of the need for such a topic.

Once again, by the time this issue of *Fireline* has gone to press, many of us will have had the opportunity to attend the Saturday Seminar in Lake Chelan regarding the "Tool Kit" approach to effective communi-

cation which is a result of the survey conducted by Washington State University.

Your WFCA Board had the opportunity to review the DRAFT version of the "Tool Kit" at our April meeting. The information will no doubt be a valuable asset to all our districts.

At our April Board meeting we heard a report from A. J. Hill (Benton 4), co-chair of the 2007 conference steering committee. The planning is going well and the members of Region 2 are excited to have the opportunity to host this year's conference. We look forward to seeing many of you at conference in Pasco on October 25, 26 & 27, 2007.

The WFCA Board of Directors is in the process of putting the finishing touches on the 2007 WFCA Strategic Plan. Different Board members have Specific Initiatives they are responsible for. We hope to finalize the document at our July Board meeting.

Finally, I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing summer.

Clallam 4 purchases new engine

Clallam County Fire District No. 4 (Joyce) took delivery of a new E-One combination pumper/foam fire engine from United Fire Service on April 5, 2007. The new unit will be faster in producing foam, use less water, will not damage the environment and will be able to carry more equipment.



In addition, the new vehicle will be easier to operate and has many systems similar to the existing E-one vehicle which will reduce training time for the volunteers.

This vehicle replaces a 1979 Ford pumper. Fire Chief Jim Johnson and Assistant Fire Chief Allen McGee saved the district thousands of dollars by purchasing a ready-built unit that was offered at 2006 pricing.

The price was \$194,545.95 and came from the district's vehicle replacement fund. The purchase follows the District vehicle replacement plan.

ON THE WEB

The WFCA office regularly receives notice of various fire service training and educational programs. Be sure to visit www.wfca.wa.gov often (select the "Education and Training" tab, and "Other Programs" from the drop-down menu) as items are frequently added.





59th Annual WFCA Conference

The Washington Fire Commissioners Association 59th Annual Conference will be held at the Red Lion Hotel in Pasco beginning Thursday, October 25, 2007. The Conference Host Committee, co-chaired by A. J. Hill (Benton 4) and Ron Shuck (Franklin 3) has some great plans in the works, so this is shaping up to be a very memorable conference. The following is preliminary information concerning conference—look for more to follow later this summer.

NEW IN 2007!

The 2008 WFCA Board Installation program will take place on Saturday, October 27 during **breakfast** (included in registration). There will be **NO** Saturday luncheon and conference will conclude with the educational program early Saturday afternoon (October 27).



CONFERENCE KICKOFF 2007

The conference will kick off Thursday morning with a continental breakfast hosted by WFCA Associate Members Emergency Services Insurance Program (ESIP) and Rice Fergus Miller Architects. Opening ceremonies will commence following the breakfast at 10 a.m. This format has been used over the past two years to much success.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Conference registration forms will be mailed to all member fire commissioners, secretaries and chiefs in mid-August, following Board approval of the Education Committee's proposed workshop schedule. Registration forms will outline class topics and specific timelines for seminars, business sessions, meals and other conference functions. A separate registration will be mailed for the Snure Seminar which will be held the evening of Wednesday, October 24.



COMMISSIONER SERVICE RECOGNITION

The WFCA has a special recognition program honoring commissioners for 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service. Commissioners who qualify are recognized at conference and awarded a special gift commemorating their years of dedication to the fire service. NOTE: This program is designed to recognize commissioner service only—time served in other capacities within the district does not apply to this award.



MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Management Excellence Award questionnaires were mailed to districts last month. Be sure to complete and return the questionnaire so that your district can be eligible to win an award at conference. This is a great opportunity to show off your district's innovative and progressive programs and services. Deadline for entries is July 1.



MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held at conference for commissioners, secretaries and chiefs who have passed away during the year. If you know of someone who has passed on, please contact the WFCA office. You will be mailed a form requesting information about the deceased so that they may be properly honored at conference.



BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Elections will be held on Friday, October 26, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., for the officers and odd-numbered regional director positions. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please submit your name to the WFCA Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 134, Olympia, WA 98507, fax 360.664.0415, or email your nomination to wfca@wfca.wa.gov.



GUEST ROOM RESERVATIONS

For room reservations, call the Pasco Red Lion at 509.547.0701 or toll-free 1.800.733.5466; room rate is \$94.95. Additional accommodations are available at the Best Western Pasco Inn & Suites (one block from the Red Lion). The Best Western reservations line is 509.543.7722 or 1.800.528.1234; room rate is \$95.61. When making reservations, be sure to mention you are with the WFCA; reservations deadline is September 18.

Generation From Page One

and system to meet consumer expectations. The emerging vision is an Internet Protocol (IP) network where callers will use an IP device to access an IP PSAP. This vision is called Next Generation 911 (NG911).

What is Next Generation 911?

According to the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), NG 911 is: "An Internet Protocol (IP) based replacement for E911 features and functions that supports all sources of emergency access to the appropriate PSAPs, operates on reliable, secure, managed, multi-purpose IP networks, and provides expanded multimedia data capabilities for PSAPs and other emergency responders."

In other words, Next Generation 911 (NG911) is:
A secure open architecture that uses a secure managed IP network to manage new communications devices such as voice and text messaging, data, and video.

Why Move to Next Generation 911?

As the rest of the world moves to an IP-based world, the current 911 system will continue to lag further behind technology, and will continue to degrade and be unable to meet the demands of its residents and requests for emergency assistance. Landline and wireless service and most other commercial communications systems are making the transition to IP-based networks. Wide band devices are being used in other parts of the world, and digital devices are being used in the United States. This trend is expected to accelerate in the coming months and years.

911 must catch up to technology. Every time a new technology is introduced (e.g., wireless, VoIP), or system functions are expanded (e.g., location determination), the existing 911 network and equipment must undergo significant, convoluted, and costly engineering changes. This results in time delays and incomplete solutions that are not completely effective.

The current analog E911 network and infrastructure cannot effectively or adequately support the network and technology needs of the future. Public safety 911 systems must transition to an IP-based network and prepare for unpredictable future service needs.

In summary, NG911 will:

- ♦ Resolve infrastructure limitations
- ♦ Replicate the reliability and security of legacy networks
- ♦ Reduce long-term costs
- ♦ Provide more functionality
- ♦ Enable faster data exchange with other PSAPs, data providers, and emergency responders
- ♦ Facilitate and reduce costs associated with regional interoperability needs
- ♦ Make greater use of information from outside agencies.
- ♦ Allow emergency responders to be better prepared for situations prior to arriving on the scene, saving more lives.

Ads

FOR SALE by Clallam 2: '87 GMC Marion 4x4 Rescue Pumper. Vehicle specs & photos can be viewed at www.clallamfire2.org. Asking \$41,500 as is where is. Contact Deputy Chief Mike Oakes at 360.460.0087.

FOR SALE by East (Clark) Co Fire & Rescue: '67 Military-style Jeep; 1- '71 Ford F250 4x4 Step side Pick-up; 1- '80 Seagrave Fire Eng; 1- '93 Chevy K-5 Blazer 4x4; 1- '96 13' Avon Inflatable Boat w/30 hp Tohatsu Outboard Motor; 200 gal Water Tank w/alum Hannay electric hose reel; 300 gal Water Tank w/Western Fire Equip pump & Hannay Hose Reel; Cutler Hammer Dbl-Throw 110A 250V Switch. All sales "as is—where is" w/ no warr offered/implied. Check www.EastCoFire-Rescue.org for prices & sale dates. Hard copies of info can be picked up @ Admin Ofc, 211 39th St, Washougal, WA 98671, M-F, 8-5. Viewing can be SCHEDULED during business hrs. Call Chief Koehler 360.835.5511 or email SKoehler@EastCoFire-Rescue.org. The Board reserves right to accept/reject any/all offers.

FOR SALE by Grays Harbor 5: '79 Ford F800 2000 gal Tender, 475-4V, 31000 GVWR, ONLY 7597 mi (has had very little use!), 5 speed man, gas, PTO Pump, electric hose reel, good rubber. Left & right side 2½" suctions & discharge, rear 2½" discharge. Ext & roof ladders. Asking \$10,000. Call Chief Randy Coggan at 360.482.6223 or email coggan@ghfd5.org.

FOR SALE by Mason 2: Surplus items: 1) Bauer 5000 PSI Model K4-E1 w/8 5000 cascade bottles w/365 hrs on it. Purchased new in '92 & impeccable maint. \$7,500. 2) Light Tower-Tow behind 2 light configuration w/ new bulbs & a Yamaha EF 2400 Power Plant \$750. 3) Generator-15 KW 3-Phase or 10 KW sngl phase Propane generator 481 hrs w/2 (120 gal) newer propane tanks & transfer switching panel. Contact Scott Cooper 360.275.6711 ext 108.

FOR SALE by Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One (in Pierce Co): 1- '91 Ford/Collins Type 3 Ambulance E350, 7.3L diesel, lights, siren, cot, approx 116,000 mi, \$5000 O.B.O. Sale "As

See Ads on Page Five

DNR program provides trucks to fire districts

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has acquired 25 used federal trucks for Washington fire districts since inaugurating the Fire-fighter Property Program (FFP) in January 2007 and is seeking additional orders for 2007.

The FFP benefits DNR and the state's fire protection districts/departments by providing low cost access to fire engines and tender chassis by improving fire districts' capacity to fight wild-fires while keeping costs down. FFP provides vehicles suitable for conversion into wildland engines or tenders for fire districts, at their expense. In return, the districts receive title to the vehicles upon taking possession.

FFP equipment is not free, nor is it a gift. Many vehicles have to be transported from out-of-state locations at the fire district's expense. Districts must also agree to place FFP vehicles in service within one year after taking possession, and agree to assist DNR in fighting wild-land fires.

All Washington fire districts/departments are eligible to request equipment through FFP. Priorities have been established to assure that equipment goes to the districts with the greatest need. To request equipment through FFP, simply download the application, fill it out completely, and email to the address shown on the form (visit <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/rp/fdap>).

NFIRS grant available through fire marshal

The Office of the State Fire Marshal will award limited contracts in the amount of \$62,000 to migrate and/or increase fire departments and districts participating in the National Fire Incident Reporting System 5.0 (NFIRS).

The State Fire Marshal will provide funding to assist regions, counties, multi-agencies, or individual departments/districts in accomplishing this goal.

This funding may be used to provide any of the following to support NFIRS participation:

- ♦ Hardware – software – internet connectivity
- ♦ Training
- ♦ Data-entry services
- ♦ Other costs associated with migration or implementation of NFIRS 5.0

Applications must be received by the Office of the State Fire Marshal no later than 5:00 p.m. local time on August 1, 2007.

You may download the application at <http://www.wa.gov/wsp/fire/data/nfirs.htm#grant>. If you need assistance, please contact Deputy State Fire Marshal Melissa Gannie at melissa.gannie@wsp.wa.gov or 360.753.0523.

Ads From Page Four

Is, Where Is" w/no warr expressed/implied. Inspect @ 14201 54th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332. Contact Asst Chief Eric Watson 253.851.3111. 10222 Bujacich Road NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332.

FOR SALE by Pierce 6 (Central Pierce Fire & Rescue):

1- SCBA 4,500# fill station, complete w/24- 2,400# Breathing Air cylinders. Misc cascade system fittings, valves & hose avail as they last. \$3,500 for all OBO. Avail 6/07. 1-'90 Emerg 1 (E-I) 4-dr pumper, Cummins L-10- 350 hp eng, Allison HT-740 AT, 1,500 gpm Top Mount Hale Pump, 750 tank, 6 kw Onan Dies Generator, Deck Gun, 1,000' 5" hose, misc adapters, AMKUS Combo Tool w/ pump, gas pwr ventilation fan, 1-24' ext, 1-14' roof ladder, misc flashlights & chargers. Motorola Radio, intercom system. Approx 155,000 mi. \$55,000 OBO. Avail 6/07.

All sales "As Is, Where Is" with no warranty expressed or implied. Items can be inspected at 17210 110th Ave East, Puyallup, WA 98374.

For more information contact Assistant Chief William Thomas "Central Pierce Fire and Rescue" at 253.538.6400, F a x 2 5 3 . 5 3 7 . 7 2 9 4 o r e m a i l wthomas@centralpiercefirerescue.org.

WANTED by Stevens 2: Did you get an AFG turnout award or are you buying new turnouts. Stevens 2 has added new volunteers and is in need of six sets of used, serviceable turnout gear. Coats (2 each) 46, 48, 50. Pants (2 each) 36x34, 38x34, 42x34. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Contact Rick Anderson / Fire Chief @ 509.722.5311, cell @ 509.675.5533 or scfd2@theofficenet.com.

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